

FIGHTING OVER BIG GUNS.

A SPICY DISCUSSION IN THE HOUSE.

AND BUTTERWORTH LOCK HORNS—SHARP CLASH BETWEEN DEMOCRATS.

Washington, Aug. 1.—The fight which began in the House yesterday over the fifteen amendment to the Army bill was waged with still greater energy to-day, and when the hour of adjournment came victory had not perched on the banner of either side. A decisive vote will be taken early in to-morrow's session. The Senate amendments which have brought on the fight are the ones which appropriate \$7,500,000 for a gun foundry at Watervliet Arsenal and \$5,000,000 for the purchase of steel for the manufacture of modern high-power rifled guns for the armament of sea-coast defenses. The House Military Committee is unanimously in favor of the amendments, but the Appropriations Committee, which defeated all appropriations for coast defenses in the last Congress, resents what it regards as an attempt to invade its rights. The latter committee has brought in a Fortifications bill, which appropriates \$750,000 for the gun foundry, \$1,500,000 for the purchase of steel, and creates an Advisory Board of Army officers and civilians, who are to make experiments and test specimens of guns submitted by corporations and individuals, with a view, as the Appropriations Committee puts it, to having Government effort supplemented by private enterprise and competition.

Mr. Reed, who was a member of the committee appointed several years ago to investigate the subject of the manufacture of heavy ordnance, has become convinced that the time has arrived when the Government should make guns as good as those in use by foreign powers, and not attempt to discover something better than has yet been invented. The members of the Appropriations Committee seem to feel not very sure of victory on the simple merits of the proposition which they present as an alternative to the Senate proposition, for they devote much of their time to efforts to induce the House to rescind what they were pleased to call an invasion of its rules by the Senate. Their speeches on that point gained them some recruits, among whom was Mr. Blount, of Georgia, who took an active part in the debate.

The liveliest scene of the day was a very spirited colloquy between Mr. Reed, who took the part of the Military Committee, and Major Buttrworth, representing the Appropriations Committee. The Ohio man grew very warm, indeed almost lost his temper and became somewhat personal in his remarks. He declared that he was as anxious as anybody to have the Government build modern guns, and he prepared for any contingency which might arise in its dealings with foreign nations. He was as patriotic as anybody, but he believed the Government should not tie itself up to the plans and theories of the Ordnance Bureau, and should avail itself of all the inventive genius and business sagacity of the whole American people.

Mr. Reed replied that all that was very well. He knew that his friend was patriotic and desired that the United States should occupy a respectable position among the nations of the earth, but the plan proposed was not a good one. If adopted, it would result simply in the building up of a few modern guns of comparatively small calibre, and the postponement of the building of larger guns for at least five years. He wanted the House to rise to the height of the occasion. It was not a question of parliamentary rule, it was not a mere question of establishing the precedence of one kind of motion over another, but it was a question of the future of the country. He wanted the House to take a decision upon a work which at the shortest would occupy at least five years. He thought that the attitude of the Appropriations Committee was a very bad one, and that the House should take a decision upon a work which at the shortest would occupy at least five years. He thought that the attitude of the Appropriations Committee was a very bad one, and that the House should take a decision upon a work which at the shortest would occupy at least five years.

After the amendments had been non-concurred in, on motion of the chairman of the Military Committee, Mr. Sayres, of the Appropriations Committee, offered a resolution to request a conference on the conflicting views of the House and Senate on the subject of the fifteen amendment. This was Mr. Sayres's opinion of a "free and full conference." The point of order was raised against the resolution, and the House adjourned.

PROGRESS OF THE SENATE TAFFET BILL.

IT WILL NOT BE READY BEFORE NEXT WEEK—SOME ABSTRACT RUMORS.

Washington, Aug. 1 (Special).—The Finance Committee of the Senate has been learning to manufacture and workmen interested in the revision of the tariff. It heard to-day representatives of tinoleum manufacturers and pottery men. It is now stated that the bill will not be ready to be reported to the Senate until the end of the next week. The desire of Republicans, of course, is to prepare as perfect a bill as possible. For obvious reasons the more consideration given the measure in committee the less will it call for debate in the Senate.

Some absurd rumors are abroad to-day to the effect that the bill will be reported to the Senate this week. It is a fact that the Finance Committee is working hard for its object, the simple placing of the bill upon the calendar, and that there was no intention of pressing it to a vote in the Senate this session. Another equally absurd rumor was that the majority of the Finance Committee is dawning with the bill in order that it may undergo a revision by Mr. Blaine after his arrival in the United States and before it is submitted to the Senate. This seems to be another bit of idle talk. There is no foundation for the rumors, however, and it is not likely to exist in the imagination of the Democrats.

FOR FEDERAL BUILDINGS IN THIS CITY.

Washington, Aug. 1 (Special).—Senator Spooner succeeded to-day in pressing through the Senate the bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for the purchase of a site or sites for a new Custom House and Appraiser's Office in the city of New-York. It is the same bill which passed the House some time ago, with this important addition, however, that the Senate doubled the amount provided for by the House. The other day quite a discussion arose over the bill, Senator Spooner insisting that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to select a site with cloth with too much power in the premises. He was of the opinion that that task should devolve upon a commission. He has since then sought to change his mind. It is said that he listened to remonstrances on the part of certain Republican Senators, who represented to him that such reflections upon a Democratic Secretary of the Treasury would be a reflection upon a Democratic Senator.

THE PRESIDENT'S EYE ON INDIANA.

Washington, Aug. 1 (Special).—The Administration is making preparations for an active campaign work in Indiana to-day. The President sent for ex-Senator Fleming, of that State, to consult with him about a financial scheme. Mr. Fleming arrived in Washington to-day and called on the President. They had a long conference. As a result of it Mr. Fleming will undertake the financial management of the campaign in his State, reporting to Senator Gordon, who is expected after the adjournment of Congress to make his political headquarters at Indianapolis.

MR. CARLISLE'S "IMPORTANT BUSINESS."

Washington, Aug. 1 (Special).—Yesterday Speaker Carlisle addressed a letter to the House announcing his intended absence on "important business." It is not clear what the business is, but it is not likely to be a very important one.

now appears that although Mr. Carlisle is not a member of the National Democratic Committee or the National Executive Committee, the "important business" which he called from his home in Indiana in the House was a conference with the latter body. It is said that one of the subjects under discussion at this conference was the President's letter of acceptance or certain paragraphs in it which he wanted the Democratic column to pass upon.

PASSING THE SUPPLY BILL.

A HARMLESS DELUSION OF SENATOR CALL DISPOSED OF BY THE SENATE.

Washington, Aug. 1 (Special).—The Senate, after nearly a week's discussion, passed to-day the Supply Bill Appropriation bill. It succeeded in doing this after having listened for over two hours to a speech by Mr. Call, of Florida, in defense of his amendment to appropriate \$10,000 to be used in locating property that belonged to the late rebel States. There was scarcely anybody in favor of such an amendment. In fact, the older Senators remembered perfectly well an investigation of a similar kind instituted a few years ago by the House, which resulted in nothing, and was abandoned before it fairly began its task. According to Senator Call's information, there is some \$30,000,000 of property formerly belonging to the Confederate Government now held by parties who have no claim to it. It is his idea that such property should be recovered and sold and its proceeds turned into the United States Treasury. He has been made to believe that there were a number of ships, now lying between British ports, which were purchased and paid for by the Confederate Government, but upon the collapse of the Rebellion they were held by persons who have since put them to their own use.

The absurdity of such a statement and of Mr. Call's figures was shown by Mr. Reagan, of Texas. In the schedule presented to Mr. Call by a man, who evidently intended to be employed out of the fund of \$10,000, he was appropriated by Congress, against certain figures of iron works in Marion county, Texas. Mr. Reagan showed that at the time those works were said to have been in the possession of the Rebel Government there was not even a railroad running through the county. There were iron works, it is true, but they were then, as they are now, in the possession of private parties.

Mr. Edmunds treated Mr. Call's proposition, much to the disgust of the latter, as a huge joke. He said that Louisiana was one of the Confederate States surrendering one of the three Rebel armies at the close of the war, asserted that everything had been surrendered in good faith.

Rather than submit his amendment to a vote, Mr. Call withdrew it altogether, after having made a speech in the praise of the late Confederacy which pleased his colleagues, though it could not induce them to support his proposition.

Shortly afterward Mr. Evans succeeded in having an amendment adopted appropriating \$32,000 for the completion of the monument erected at Washington Headquarters in Newburg. He also secured the adoption of another amendment appropriating \$1,500 for the purchase of an unbranded picture by Benjamin West, representing the Congress of the United States during the late war, at Paris, between this country and Great Britain.

MR. MOORE'S DELAYED LETTERS.

Washington, Aug. 1 (Special).—The Woman's League has succeeded in stirring up the Post Office Department very thoroughly over the case of Representative John J. O'Neill, of Missouri. A letter was received this morning by the Postmaster-General from William Hyde, the postmaster at St. Louis, saying that he will investigate the delay in the delivery of the two letters sent out by Mr. O'Neill, which were forwarded to him by Mr. O'Neill's wife, but which arrived too late.

BONDS OFFERED AND ACCEPTED.

Washington, Aug. 1.—The bond offerings to-day aggregated \$750,000.

The Secretary of the Treasury accepted \$50,000 registered 4-1/2 per cent bonds at 107 and 100.

CONDITION OF SAVINGS BANKS.

ABSTRACTS OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS TO THE BANK SUPERINTENDENT.

Albany, Aug. 1.—I have given abstracts of the official semi-annual reports of the New-York City savings banks, showing their condition on July 1, as reported to the bank superintendent. During the past year their resources had increased, \$5,068,225 25; deposits, \$10,105,554 84; open accounts, 20,258; while the surplus has fallen off \$487,494 20.

American Savings Bank—Total resources, \$604,564 41; deposits, \$12,105,554 84; open accounts, 20,258; surplus, \$13,039 31; open accounts, 2,742.

Bank for Savings—Total resources, \$5,068,225 25; deposits, \$13,590,401 38; surplus, \$5,068,225 25; open accounts, 114,741.

Boys' Savings Bank—Total resources, \$5,158,522 20; deposits, \$15,458,229 82; surplus, \$10,701,301 38; open accounts, 106,308.

Broadway Savings Institution—Total resources, \$4,325,834 74; deposits, \$4,186,172 55; surplus, \$359, 661 79; open accounts, 250.

Citizens Savings Bank—Total resources, \$12,055,113 25; deposits, \$10,214,967 06; surplus, \$1,240,145 25; open accounts, 19,565.

Dry Dock Savings Institution—Total resources, \$1,807,361 32; deposits, \$1,614,985 20; surplus, \$142,376 12; open accounts, 36,385.

East River Savings Institution—Total resources, \$11,018,905 51; deposits, \$9,801,903 78; surplus, \$1,817,002 03; open accounts, 17,348.

Eleventh Ward Savings Bank—Total resources, \$2,802 30; deposits, \$2,807 03; surplus, \$625 30; open accounts, 1,210.

Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank—Total resources, \$41,209,590 94; deposits, \$33,177,132 93; surplus, \$6,002,726 90; open accounts, 64,571.

Equitable Savings Institution, closing—Total resources, \$150 40; deposits, \$150 40; surplus, \$0 00; open accounts, 178.

First National Bank—Total resources, \$3,520,215 78; deposits, \$3,511,438 38; surplus, \$1,070,401 40; open accounts, 2,280.

Franklin Savings Bank—Total resources, \$4,468,903 96; deposits, \$3,918,807 01; surplus, \$450,036 95; open accounts, 2,329.

German Savings Bank—Total resources, \$25,492,191 94; deposits, \$25,426,570 79; surplus, \$1,965,621 15; open accounts, 50,653.

Greenwich Savings Bank—Total resources, \$24,807, 102 20; deposits, \$20,827,052 49; surplus, \$1,030, 049 20; open accounts, 40,333.

Harlem Savings Bank—Total resources, \$3,707,502 40; deposits, \$3,487,503 49; surplus, \$270,088 91; open accounts, 16,379.

Institution for Savings of Merchants' Claims—Total resources, \$67,750 92; deposits, \$67,750 92; surplus, \$0 00; open accounts, 13,857.

Irving Savings Institution—Total resources, \$7,175, 163 83; deposits, \$6,207,110 17; surplus, \$1,049,066 66; open accounts, 12,279.

Manhattan Savings Institution—Total resources, \$7,750,550 81; deposits, \$6,805,444 99; surplus, \$775,550 81; open accounts, 15,640.

Metropolitan Savings Bank—Total resources, \$4,452, 874 08; deposits, \$3,999,827 19; surplus, \$453,047 79; open accounts, 8,270.

New York Savings Bank—Total resources, \$8,518,701 80; deposits, \$7,506,149 57; surplus, \$1,732,642 43; open accounts, 10,589.

North River Savings Bank—Total resources, \$2,915, 727 47; deposits, \$2,732,081 24; surplus, \$213,646 23; open accounts, 10,995.

Seamen's Bank for Savings—Total resources, \$38,952, 870 00; deposits, \$33,331,293; surplus, \$7,621, 077 09; open accounts, 70,248.

Union Time Savings Institution—Total resources, \$9,123,802 19; deposits, \$8,522,089 29; surplus, \$601,712 90; open accounts, 20,000.

Widow's Savings Bank—Total resources, \$413,802 07; deposits, \$396,136 90; surplus, \$17,665 17; open accounts, 2,875.

DEFENDING THE "BOBTAIL" CARS.

THE TWENTY-THIRD STREET LINE INTENDS TO FIGHT THE ALDERMEN'S ACTION.

The ordinance adopted by the Aldermen on Tuesday, prohibiting the Twenty-third Street Railway Company from running cars without conductors after August 10, did not create the consternation expected among the street railway companies favoring the "bobtail" cars. Mr. House, the counsel for the Twenty-third Street line, said yesterday that the Aldermen did not have the constitutional power to pass such an ordinance, and should Mayor Hewitt sign it the company would contest its legality in the courts. There was no intention on the part of any of the companies, as doing away with the "bobtail" car, the law of the city, as it is called, which has been in force since the city was founded, and which has been sustained by the courts, as a convenient and economical system had been found, they would not wish to injure themselves to please a maudlin sentiment that had nothing to do with the system whatever. Superintendent White of the East Broadway, Battery and Canal-st. cross-town lines, refused to say anything about the case, on the plea that he was too busy.

He admitted, however, that his company meant to fight the ordinance. He said that the ordinance was a "bobtail" car, and that the company would fight it in the courts. He said that the ordinance was a "bobtail" car, and that the company would fight it in the courts.

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